

Labor Resources for Camden, South Carolina

Executive Summary

This profile contains information about the labor force within a 30 minute and 45 minute commuting distance from the center of Camden, South Carolina. Camden is located in Kershaw County, South Carolina.

The profile examines three issues: labor force characteristics, the availability of labor, and the average wages and salaries in the community of Camden.

Labor Situation at a Glance in Camden, South Carolina

Labor Force Characteristics	within 30 min.	within 45 min.	South Carolina
Population, 2004	142,040	476,677	4,198,068
Labor Force, 2004	62,602	214,357	2,046,179
Availability of Labor	within 30 min.	within 45 min.	South Carolina
Unemployed Workers, 2004	4,454	15,307	139,607
Unemployment Rate, 2004	7.1%	6.7%	6.8%
Workers Affected by Layoffs (Past 2 Years)	170	589	22,196
Average Wages	Kershaw County	South Carolina	United States
2003 Avg. Weekly Wage	\$575	\$581	\$658

Labor Force Characteristics for Camden, South Carolina

The composition and size of a community's labor force is linked very closely with demographic and economic conditions and trends in the region. The following labor force profile provides basic information on the population base and labor force characteristics so that the reader can better assess labor force conditions in the community.

Labor Force			
	30 min. Drive time	45 min. Drive time	South Carolina
Labor Force 2004	62,602	214,357	2,046,179
Change since 2000	-4,202	-14,074	49,079
Population			
Population 2004	142,040	476,677	4,198,068
Change since 2000	1,912	5,809	186,056
Projected 2010	57,114	211,504	4,446,704
Gender Distribution			
Male	69,519	233,156	2,040,261
Female	72,522	243,522	2,132,454
Age Distribution			
Ages 20-34	31,573	106,803	875,330
Ages 35-49	31,436	104,145	925,330
Ages 50-64	23,568	79,440	739,980
20-54 *Prime Working Age	72,581	243,180	2,084,880
Highest Level of Educational Attainment			
High School	53,043	174,191	778,054
Some College	20,701	70,785	500,194
Associate Degree	8,153	28,339	173,428
Bachelors Degree	13,078	44,524	351,526
Post Bachelor	5,106	17,799	178,529

**Prime working age group:*
People between the ages of 18-54 are often referred to as the prime working age group. In staffing a new facility, prudent managers often prefer to staff its production work force with workers whose ages form a normal distribution curve. This provides for stability, flexibility and continuity of knowledge.

Source: 2004 Estimates Based on 2000 U.S. Census of Population and
Woods and Poole, 2003 Edition

Employment Characteristics for Camden, South Carolina

Total Employment			
Year	30 min. Drive time	45 min. Drive time	South Carolina
2004	58,148	199,049	1,906,571

Total Employment data include all full and part-time wage and salaried workers in the area. These people may or may not reside in the area.

Monthly Employment by Sector In Kershaw County			
Sector	30 min. Drive time	45 min. Drive time	South Carolina
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	324	685	12,379
Mining		40	1,603
Utilities	31	162	11,891
Construction	1,143	3,794	111,730
Manufacturing	4,340	14,621	275,573
Wood product manufacturing		198	8,371
Nonmetallic mineral product manufacturing	21	131	9,155
Primary metal manufacturing		282	6,317
Fabricated metal product manufacturing	176	1,109	27,357
Machinery manufacturing		188	21,278
Computer and electronic product manufacturing		164	7,666
Electrical equipment and appliance mfg.	3	243	10,748
Transportation equipment manufacturing	335	697	30,932
Furniture and related product manufacturing	44	81	4,225
Miscellaneous manufacturing	1	88	7,846
Food manufacturing	1	472	17,832
Beverage and tobacco product manufacturing			1,445
Textile mills	1,109	2,337	40,207
Textile product mills	267	394	9,724
Apparel manufacturing		5	5,321
Paper manufacturing	1	993	14,710
Printing and related support activities	30	156	7,327
Petroleum and coal products manufacturing			288
Chemical manufacturing	1,113	1,595	21,659
Plastics and rubber products manufacturing	167	239	23,054
Wholesale Trade	215	1,756	62,523
Retail Trade	2,206	7,798	224,031
Transportation and Warehousing	75	1,264	46,941
Education and Health Services	1,659	8,456	156,232
Leisure and Hospitality	1,104	4,467	192,748
Professional and Business Services	617	3,679	186,481

Source: 2003 Covered Wages, SC Employment Securities Commission

Largest Industries by Total Employment In Kershaw County				
Company Name	City	Primary Product/Service	Employment	Date Est.
DuPont Nylon-May Plant	Lugoff	Synthetic organic fibers	750	1950
BBA Nonwovens Inc	Bethune	Non woven fabrics	342	1956
South Carolina Yutaka Technologies	Lugoff	ATV Steering	298	1999
New South Lumber Co	Cassatt	Dressed lumber	270	1983
Clariant LSM (America) Inc	Elgin	Agricultural intermediates	267	1967
HBD Industries Inc	Elgin	Rubber V-belts	203	1972
Kendall Co-Wateree Plt	Camden	Surgical gauze	202	1901
Haier America Refrigerators Co	Camden	Refrigerators	200	1999
DeRoyal Textiles Inc	Camden	Medical gauze	192	1905
Mancor SC Inc	Lugoff	Machine shop	170	1987
Cogsdill Tool Products Inc	Lugoff	Roller burnishing tools	162	1977
Kaycee Inc	Camden	Home fashions	125	1990
Dana Corp-Rides & Control	Lugoff	Chassis assembly	124	1987
Jubilee Embroidery Co	Lugoff	Contract embroidery	122	1973
C Ray Miles Construction Co	Lugoff	Road grading & construction	100	1966
Prestage Farms Inc	Cassatt	Turkey	84	1995
Cal-Maine Foods Inc	Bethune	Fresh eggs	80	1974
Oak-Mitsui	Camden	Copper foil	65	1991
SPX Filtran	Lugoff	Small engine air filters	56	1999
Kord USA Inc	Lugoff	Injection molding	55	1999

Employer-Employee Relationship

Employer-employee relations in South Carolina are very stable and the state consistently ranks as one of the least unionized in the nation. In 2004, only 4.5 percent of the state's workers were members of a labor union. Additionally, the state has consistently had one of the lowest work stoppage rates in the United States. On average, less than .01 percent of working time was lost due to strikes in manufacturing and non-manufacturing industries combined.

Availability of Labor

Labor Force Participation & Unemployment

Labor Force Participation & Unemployment			
Year	30 min. Drive time	45 min. Drive time	South Carolina
Labor Force (2004)	62,602	214,357	2,046,179
Labor Force Change from 2000	-4,202	-14,074	49,079
Labor Force Participation Rate	44%	45%	49%
Unemployment (2004)	4,454	15,307	139,607
Unemployment Rate	7.1%	6.7%	6.8%

The *labor force participation* rate is the percentage which results from dividing the labor force count by the total population.

Unemployment reflects the total number of persons who do not have a job and are actively seeking employment.

Other Potential Sources of Labor Supply

Total Jobs Lost Due to Mass Closings and Layoffs Past Two Years			
Sector	30 min. Drive time	45 min. Drive time	South Carolina
Total	170	589	22,196
Manufacturing	152	510	19,196
Distribution	18	77	1,213
Service	-	2	1,745
Other	-	-	42

Recent closings and layoffs are a rich source of skilled and experienced labor for companies seeking to locate or expand in a given area. Industries in which layoffs and closings occur can provide some indication of the skills and knowledge-base of many unemployed and underemployed workers in a region.

Commuters to Other Areas			
	30 min. Drive time	45 min. Drive time	South Carolina
Commuters to other areas	16,565	56,105	31,833

Source: 2000 U.S. Census of Population

Workers commuting to places outside their residence are a significant source of experienced labor for new and expanding industries. These workers may be willing to consider an opportunity for employment nearer their place of residence.

Recent Graduates of South Carolina's Colleges and Universities

Certificates/Degrees Conferred From Technical Colleges in Select Degrees Within 45 Minute Drive Time of Kershaw County, SC	
Degree Area	Two Year Certificates Conferred 2002 - 2004
Computer and Information Sciences (Total)	354
Data Processing Technology	169
Engineering Technologies (Total)	160
Electrical ,Electronic & Communications	77
Mechanical Engineering/Tech	*
Mechanic & Repair Technologies (Total)	415
Industrial Electronics	20
HVAC	50
Precision Production (Total)	125
Machine Tool Technology/Machinist	99

Graduation From South Carolina's Four Year Colleges and Universities In Select Degrees		
	Degrees Conferred (2002-2004)	
	Bachelors	Post- Grad
Computer and Information Science (Total)	910	108
Computer Engineering	150	149
Computer Programming	12	5
Engineering & Related Technologies (Total)	1,316	786
Chemical Engineering	136	38
Electrical Engineering	257	150
Industrial Engineering	78	44
Mechanical Engineering	268	95
Business Admin & Management	4,754	1,018
International Business/Trade	178	276

Source: South Carolina Commission on Higher Education

Wages and Salaries

Average Wage and Salary Comparison			
Sector	Kershaw County	South Carolina	United States
Avg. Weekly Wages*	\$575	\$581	\$658
Avg. Annual Salary*	\$29,896	\$30,240	\$37,508
Avg. Hourly Prod. Wages**	N/A	\$14.73	\$16.14

*Covered Wages and Employment, 2003, SC Employment Securities Commission

** Employment & Earnings, 2004, U.S. Department of Labor

Average Annual Salary Manufacturing Sectors, 2004		
Sector	Kershaw County	South Carolina
Manufacturing Total	\$42,739	\$39,027
Wood product	***	\$30,808
Nonmetallic mineral product	\$15,153	\$39,031
Primary metal	***	\$49,695
Fabricated metal product	\$40,069	\$37,533
Machinery	***	\$39,952
Computer and electronic product	***	\$40,186
Electrical equipment and appliance	***	\$40,178
Transportation equipment	\$40,106	\$44,099
Furniture and related product	\$27,158	\$27,907
Miscellaneous	***	\$34,350
Food	***	\$26,620
Beverage and tobacco product	***	\$35,765
Textile mills	\$44,600	\$31,898
Textile product mills	\$17,156	\$25,618
Apparel	***	\$23,705
Paper	***	\$55,139
Printing and related support activities	\$19,774	\$36,634
Petroleum and coal products	***	\$49,113
Chemical	\$57,030	\$50,870
Plastics and rubber products	\$28,363	\$46,620

***Indicates data suppressed

Source: Covered Wages and Employment, SC Employment Securities Commission

Occupational Wages In Camden and Surrounding Area

Average Hourly Wages of Employees by Selected Non-Exempt Occupations For Kershaw County Area*			
Non-Exempt Occupations	Entry	Average	Experienced
Assemblers and Fabricators	\$8.06	\$9.35	\$10.50
Butchers and Meat Cutters	\$7.46	\$9.27	\$10.86
Cabinetmakers and Bench Carpenters	*	*	*
Chemical Equipment Operators	\$15.13	\$16.37	\$17.36
Chemical Plant & System Operators	*	*	*
Electrical & Electronic Equip Tenders	*	*	*
Extruding & Forming Machine Setters	*	*	*
Grinding & Lapping Machine Operators	*	*	*
Logging Equipment Operators	\$9.43	\$10.58	\$12.75
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	\$9.95	\$13.68	\$16.76
Machine Tool Setters & Tenders	*	*	*
Industrial Machinery Mechanics	\$12.42	\$14.42	\$16.83
Machinists	\$8.95	\$13.90	\$17.43
Packaging & Filling Machine Op	\$8.37	\$10.40	\$11.32
Molding & Casting Machine Op	*	*	*
Sewing Machine Operators	\$6.29	\$7.81	\$8.91
Textile, Cutting Machine Operators	\$6.90	\$10.17	\$14.35
Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor-Trailer	\$10.41	\$14.51	\$17.07
Welders, Cutters & Solderers	\$10.81	\$13.20	\$15.83
Woodworking Machine Setters	\$7.74	\$9.04	\$10.34
Average Salary of Employees by Selected Exempt Occupations For Kershaw County Area*			
Exempt Occupations	Entry	Average	Experienced
Chemical Engineers	\$54,580	\$68,680	\$82,340
Computer Programmers	\$32,660	\$43,800	\$55,300
Engineers, NEC	\$41,540	\$55,880	\$66,380
First Line Production Man & Sup	\$28,520	\$36,220	\$43,800
Industrial Engineers	\$46,500	\$54,200	\$64,060
Mechanical Engineers	\$45,860	\$52,800	\$64,240

Source: *Occupational Wage Survey*, SC Employment Security Commission

* Indicates Suppressed Data or Data Not Available